

**Country/entity** Papua New Guinea  
Bougainville

**Region** Asia and Pacific

**Agreement name** Protocol Concerning the Neutral Truce Monitoring Group

**Date** 5 Dec 1997

**Agreement status** Multiparty signed/agreed

**Interim arrangement** Yes

**Agreement/conflict level** Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

### **Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)**

The conflict on Bougainville, an island under the jurisdiction of Papua New Guinea (PNG), began in 1987 as a dispute over compensation for the use of land by Bougainville Copper Ltd, a an Australian subsidiary. The underlying issue of independence soon emerged and the conflict escalated between the government of PNG and the native islanders, in turn spearheaded by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA). Until fighting ended in 1998, an estimated 20,000 died in the conflict. Several pre-negotiation agreements culminated in an agreement to a 'permanent and irrevocable' ceasefire, and a framework for normalizing the PNG-Bourgainville relationship, which included elections.

Close

Bougainville Conflict (1987 - 1998)

**Stage** Implementation/renegotiation

**Conflict nature** Government/territory

**Peace process** Bougainville: peace process

**Parties** For the Independent State of Papua New Guinea: ROY YAKI; For Australia: ALEXANDER DOWNER; For Fiji: BERNARDO VUNIBOBO; For New Zealand: DON MCKINNON; For Vanuatu: CLEMENT LEO

**Third parties** -

**Description** This short agreement outlines details of mechanisms established in previous agreements, such as the Peace Monitoring Group and the Peace Consultative Committee.

---

**Agreement document** [PG\\_971205\\_Protocol Concerning the Neutral Truce Monitoring Group.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

---

## **Groups**

<b>Children/youth</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Disabled persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Elderly/age</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Migrant workers</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Racial/ethnic/ national group</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Religious groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Indigenous people</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Other groups</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Refugees/displaced persons</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Social class</b>	No specific mention.

---

## **Gender**

<b>Women, girls and gender</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Men and boys</b>	No specific mention.
<b>LGBTI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Family</b>	No specific mention.

---

## **State definition**

<b>Nature of state (general)</b>	No specific mention.
<b>State configuration</b>	No specific mention.

**Self determination** No specific mention.

**Referendum** No specific mention.

**State symbols** No specific mention.

**Independence/  
secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/  
unification** No specific mention.

**Border delimitation** No specific mention.

**Cross-border  
provision** No specific mention.

---

## **Governance**

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** No specific mention.

**Elections** Page 4, Article 8: Entry into force, review and duration of this Protocol  
... (3) Noting the agreements reached by the parties to the Lincoln Agreement regarding restoration of civil authority, including civilian peacetime policing and the holding of free and democratic elections to elect a Bougainville Reconciliation Government before the end of 1998, the Parties agree to consult and review the size, composition and role of the Peace Monitoring Group at intervals of three months, or such other intervals as may be agreed, bearing in mind progress towards restoration of civil authority in Bougainville. Participating States will consult the other Parties before altering the size or composition of their respective contributions to the Peace Monitoring Group.

**Electoral commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties reform** No specific mention.

**Civil society** No specific mention.

**Traditional/religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

---

## **Power sharing**

**Political power sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power sharing** No specific mention.

**Economic power sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power sharing** No specific mention.

---

## **Human rights and equality**

**Human rights/RoL general** No specific mention.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty incorporation** No specific mention.

**Civil and political rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic rights** No specific mention.

---

## **Rights related issues**

**Citizenship** No specific mention.

**Democracy** No specific mention.

**Detention procedures** No specific mention.

**Media and communication** No specific mention.

**Mobility/access** No specific mention.

**Protection measures** No specific mention.

**Other** No specific mention.

---

## **Rights institutions**

**NHRI** No specific mention.

**Regional or international human rights institutions** No specific mention.

---

## **Justice sector reform**

**Criminal justice and emergency law** No specific mention.

**State of emergency provisions** No specific mention.

**Judiciary and courts** No specific mention.

**Prisons and detention** No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws** No specific mention.

---

## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** No specific mention.

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** No specific mention.

**International funds** No specific mention.

**Business** No specific mention.

**Taxation** No specific mention.

**Banks** No specific mention.

---

## **Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment** No specific mention.

**Water or riparian rights or access** No specific mention.

---

**Security sector**

**Security Guarantees** No specific mention.

**Ceasefire** Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments  
Page 3, Article 4, Mandate of the Peace Monitoring Group  
(1) Article 5 (Mandate of the Group) of the Head Agreement shall be amended to read as follows:  
(a) monitor and report on the compliance of the parties involved in the Bougainville peace process to all aspects of the ceasefire;  
... (c) provide people in Bougainville with information about the ceasefire and other aspects of the peace process;

**Police** No specific mention.

**Armed forces** No specific mention.

**DDR** No specific mention.

**Intelligence services** No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces** No specific mention.

**Withdrawal of foreign forces** No specific mention.

**Corruption** No specific mention.

**Crime/organised crime** No specific mention.

**Drugs** No specific mention.

**Terrorism** No specific mention.

---

## **Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** No specific mention.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

---



## **Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar** No specific mention.

**Enforcement mechanism** No specific mention.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** Australian Treaty Series  
<http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/treaties/>  
<http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/treaties/1997/30.html>

---